

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method for creating a map of available physical resources on ~~[[the]]~~ an interface level within an Internet Protocol (IP) ~~[[IP]]~~ network, ~~by performing the steps of comprising:~~

-combining (303) a topology map of said IP network with resource information that comprises information about identities of ~~logical~~ IP addresses and quantity of ~~logical~~ IP addresses~~[[,]]~~; ~~the method is characterised in the further step of:~~ and

-performing (304) a mapping between said ~~logical~~ IP addresses and a physical interface within said IP network, the mapping being performed by a resource manager collecting information from network elements by using Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP),

wherein the method is implemented by a computer program product stored on a computer readable storage medium.

15. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 14, wherein the topology map is obtained by a topology aware resource manager.

16-17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim ~~[[17]]~~ 14, wherein said resource manager is implemented within a router or a server.

19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A computer program stored on the computer readable storage medium and executed on a server and/or a router within an IP network comprising ~~[[the]]~~ software code portions for performing the steps of claim 14.

21. (currently amended) A computer program stored on the computer readable storage medium, comprising readable program for causing a processing means within a server and/or a router within an IP network to control the execution of the steps of claim 14.

22. (currently amended) ~~Resource~~ A resource manager for creating a map of available physical resources on ~~[[the]]~~ an

interface level within an Internet Protocol (IP). [[IP]] network, comprising:

means (502) for combining a topology map of said IP network with resource information that comprises information about identities of ~~logical~~ IP addresses and quantity of ~~logical~~ IP addresses~~[[,]]~~; ~~the resource manager is characterised in that it further comprises~~

means (504) for performing a mapping between said ~~logical~~ IP addresses and a physical interface within said IP network; and

means for obtaining the physical resource information by collecting information from network elements by using Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP),

wherein the resource manager is implemented by a computer program product stored on a computer readable storage medium.

23. (currently amended) ~~Resource~~ The resource manager according to claim 22, wherein ~~[[it]]~~ said resource manager further comprises means for creating a topology map.

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) ~~Resource~~ The resource manager according to claim 22, wherein said resource manager is implemented within a router or a server.

26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 14, wherein the resource information further comprises bandwidth information of the physical interface.